

**STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086**  
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2010–2011)

**SUBJECT CODE: EL/FC/EC33**

**B.A./ B.Sc./ B.S.W. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2011**  
**THIRD SEMESTER**

**COURSE : FOUNDATION CORE**  
**PAPER : ENGLISH CORE**  
**TIME : 2 HOURS**

**MAX. MARKS: 50**

**I. Read the passage and answer the questions.**

**(15 marks)**

TOM: I' m planning to change. [He leans over the rail speaking with quiet exhilaration. The incandescent marquees and signs of the first-run movie houses light his face from across the alley. He looks like a voyager.] I'm right at the point of committing myself to a future that doesn't include the warehouse and Mr. Mendoza or even a night-school course in public speaking.

JIM: What are you gassing about?

TOM: I'm tired of the movies.

JIM: Movies!

TOM: Yes, movies! Look at them? [A wave toward the marvels of Grand Avenue.] All of those glamorous people - having adventures - hogging it all, gobbling the whole thing up! You know what happens? People go to the movies instead of moving! Hollywood characters are supposed to have all the adventures for everybody in America, while everybody in America sits in a dark room and watches them have them! Yes, until there's a war. That's when adventure becomes available to the masses! Everyone's dish, not only Gable's! Then the people in the dark room come out of the dark room to have some adventure themselves Goody, goody! It's our turn now, to go to the South Sea Islands - to make a safari - to be exotic, far-off! But I'm not patient. I don't want to wait till then. I'm tired of the movies and I am about to move!

JIM [incredulously]: Move?

TOM: Yes.

JIM: When?

TOM: Soon!

JIM: Where? Where?

[THEME THREE MUSIC SEEMS TO ANSWER THE QUESTION, WHILE TOM THINKS IT OVER. HE SEARCHES AMONG HIS POCKETS.]

TOM: I'm starting to boil inside. I know I seem dreamy, but inside - well, I'm boiling! Whenever I pick up a shoe, I shudder a little thinking how short life is and what I am doing! Whatever that means, I know it doesn't mean shoes - except as something to wear on a traveller's feet! [Finds paper.] Look

JIM: What?

TOM: I'm a member.

JIM [reading]: The Union of Merchant Seamen.

TOM: I paid my dues this month, instead of the light bill.

JIM: You will regret it when they turn the lights off.

TOM: I won't be here.

JIM: How about your mother?

TOM: I'm like my father. The bastard son of a bastard! See how he grins? And he's been absent going on sixteen years!

JIM: You're just talking, you drip. How does your mother feel about it?

TOM: Shhh! Here comes mother! Mother is not acquainted with my plans!

1. What plans does Tom have in mind regarding his future? (3 Marks)
2. "Hollywood characters are supposed to have all the adventures for everybody in America, while everybody in America sits in a dark room and watches them have them!" In the light of this statement, discuss Tom's views on movies and their impact on people. (3 Marks)
3. How is Tom 'like his father'? (3 Marks)
4. Why do you think Tom brought Jim home for dinner that day? (3 Marks)
5. Use any three of the words or phrases given below to make sentences of your own. (3 Marks)
  1. Commit oneself    2. Exotic    3. Masses    4. Regret    5. Absent

**II. Write a short answer in about three paragraphs on ANY TWO of the following.**  
(2 x 10= 20marks)

- a. Tom loves adventures, and that leads him to take the decisions he did. Discuss this statement.
- b. How does Amanda, a strong woman face the challenges of life? Discuss with suitable illustrations from the play.
- c. Laura is as fragile as her glass collection – Do you agree? Give your personal responses to her character.
- d. What do we learn of Tom’s father, Mr. Wingfield, from the play?
- e. How does the play become a memory play?

**III. Write an essay in about four paragraphs ON ANY ONE of the following.**

(10 marks)

- a. Reality Shows on TV.
- b. Anti- corruption campaigns.
- c. The Beauty Myth and the Cosmetic Industry.

**IV. Develop the following hints into a paragraph**

( 5 marks)

Jim O’ Connor – ordinary young man – dreams of social mobility – sociable – awakens hopes of normal life in Laura temporarily – short lived dreams for Laura – leaves Laura and Amanda shattered.

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